

1. (Currently amended) A method of managing product returns comprising the steps of:

interrogating a radio frequency product label on a product returned to a store by a computer;

identifying the product from information obtained from the radio frequency product label by the computer;

recording operator authorization to add the product to inventory by the computer; and

adjusting inventory records to reflect addition of the product to inventory by the computer.

2. (Currently amended) A method of managing product returns comprising the steps of:

interrogating a radio frequency product label on a product returned to a store by a computer;

identifying the product from information obtained from the radio frequency product label by the computer;

determining whether the product was sold by the store by the computer; and

only if the product was sold by the store,

recording operator authorization to add the product to inventory by the computer; and

adjusting inventory records to reflect addition of the product to inventory by the computer.

3. (Currently amended) A method of managing product returns comprising the steps of:

activating a radio frequency product label on a product returned to a store by a computer;

interrogating the radio frequency product label by the computer;

identifying the product from information obtained from the radio frequency product label by the computer;

recording operator authorization to add the product to inventory by the computer; and

adjusting inventory records to reflect addition of the product to inventory by the computer.

4. (Original) A system for managing product returns comprising:

a radio frequency product label affixed to the product;

a product label interrogator which obtains identification information from the radio frequency product label; and

a computer which controls the product label interrogator, identifies the product, records operator authorization to add the product to inventory, and adjusts inventory records to reflect addition of the product to inventory.

5. (Currently amended) A system for managing product returns comprising:

a radio frequency product label affixed to the product;
a product label interrogator which obtains identification information from the radio frequency product label; and

a computer which controls the product label interrogator, identifies the product, determines whether the product was sold by the store, and, only if the product was sold by the store, records operator authorization to add the product to inventory and adjusts inventory records to reflect addition of the product to inventory.